



RMC Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: March 21, 2022, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Co-chair Lindsay Thompson, Greg Padghm, Scott Warner, Monique Snyder, Diana Hsu, Bill Christopher, Debbie Bowden, Kimberly Kratovil, Cassie Shirk, Matt Tefteau, Steve McHenry, Don Mulrine, Dan Rider, Alice Settle-Raskin, Cassandra Vanhooser, Charlotte Davis, Amanda Clevenger, Dakota Matthews, Megan D'Arcy.

Committee Co-chair Lindsay Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting at 2:03pm and conducted roll call. Co-chair Thompson asked if there were any changes to the March 7, 2022 meeting minutes. There were none. The 3/7/2022 minutes were unanimously accepted. Ms. Charlotte Davis reported on the budget stating that the budget passed the Senate and it was going to the House and so far the RMPF is fully funded as well as \$50million for the rural Regional Councils. Ms. Davis reported on the capital budget that includes POS, DNR, and Rural Legacy funding and on supplemental budget #3. Ms. Davis shared information on the upcoming Maryland Day taking place on March 25, 2022 from 11:30am to 1:00pm at Lawyer's Mall.

Co-chair Lindsay Thompson reviewed the consolidated position statement packet that consisted of 86 pages that were submitted by RMC this legislative session and thanked RMC staff and Committee members. Co-chair Thompson reviewed the bill tracker and stated the status of the bills with the Committee.

2022 Bill Tracking Update

- a. ~~SB92/HB777: Maryland Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act~~ name changed to Real Property – Partition of Property: *Status-passed both houses.*
- b. SB121/HB147: Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program – *Status: Crossed over from the house to the senate and sentate to house but committees have not be assigned.*
- c. HB1187/SB726: Transportation – Highway Users Revenue – Revenue and Distribution (SB400/HB410) – *Status: Budget and Taxation passed out the bill and amendment to get it closer to restoration to FY2027 at 15.4%.*
- d. SB473/HB730: Economic Development – Maryland E-Nnovation Initiative Program – Qualifying Donations – *Status: Both bills passed out of respective chambers and have been referred across.*
- e. SB474/HB838: Economic Development – Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Board and Fund – Establishment – *Status: Bill has not moved but the budget is in the supplemental for \$20million.*
- f. SB476/HB550: Alcoholic Beverages – Manufacturer's Licenses and Off-Site Permits – Sunset Extension - *Status: Bill passed the Senate.*
- g. SB528 – Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, 3rd Reading in the Senate, Status – Letter of Information – *Status: The Committee discussed the bill and decided to stay neutral.*

- h. SB541/HB727 – Natural Resources – Maryland Park Service and State Parks – Alterations (Great Maryland Outdoors Act) - *Status: Senate bill passed but the house bill is still being discussed in the committee.*
- i. SB561/HB403: Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Employee-Owned Businesses – *Status: Senate bill moved, and house bill did not.*
- j. SB567/HB1282: Property Tax – Agricultural Use Assessment – Improvements – *Status: The bill did not move on either side and MD farm bureau has a meeting this week with Delegate Atterberry to move the bill out and MACo has concerns as well.*
- k. SB598/HB2: Income Tax – Work Opportunity Tax Credit – *Status: Bill did not move out of the Senate but did move out of the House.*
- l. SB626/HB1464: Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and Physician Assistants – Alterations – *Status: The bill moving and \$3M was included in the committee report.*
- m. SB695/HB1140: Natural Resources – Voluntary Firewood Treatment Certification Program – Establishment – *Status: House bill is moving.*
- n. SB696: Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment for Nurses and Nursing Workers -Program Establishment and Funding – *Status: The Senate bill is on 3rd reader and the House bill is not yet out of committee.*
- o. SB698/HB854: Alcoholic Beverages – Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion – *Status: House bill is moving.*
- p. SB826/HB1242: Economic Development-Maryland Watermen – *Status: Senate passed the bill and the House had a good hearing and they are waiting to learn if funding is available through a supplemental.*
- q. SB830/HB1228: Natural Resources – Oysters – Spat, Shells, and Substrate - *Status: House bill moved and amendments have been completed.*
- r. HB456/SB957: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – State Supplement- *Status: House bill moved but the Senate bill has not.*
- s. HB6: Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Dental Coverage for Adults - *Status: Bill has moved out of the Senate and the House.*
- t. HB31/SB526: Maryland Energy Administration – Resiliency Hub Grant Program and Fund – *Status: Bill was not discussed by the Legislative Committee.*
- u. HB178: Public Health-Cottage Food Business-Annual Revenues – *Status: Passed out of the House in advance of cross-over and the dollar amount was cut in half to \$50,000.*
- v. SB369: Income Tax – Return Preparation Assistance Program for Low Income Families – *Status: Passed out of the Senate and referred to the House Committee.*
- w. HB387: Pesticide Regulation – Transfer to Department of the Environment - *Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor and the Senate companion received a negative vote from EHEA.*
- x. SB393/HB414: Economic Development – Project Restore Program and Fund – *Status: Senate bill passed.*
- y. HB418/SB391: Economic Development – More Jobs for Marylanders Program – Extension – *Status: Moving in House and Senate.*
- z. HB540/SB437: Agriculture – University of Maryland Extension – Urban Farmer Assistance: *Status: Moved out of House and Senate.*
- aa. HB784: Department of Natural Resources – Irreplaceable Natural Areas Program – Establishment – *Status: Moved out of the House and the Senate hearing is on March 22, 2022. The Committee decided to continue to monitor it.*

- bb. HB834: On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems – Outreach and Education (Septic Awareness Act of 2022) – Status: Bill is moving.*
- cc. HB876: Maryland Forestry Education Fund – Establishment – Status: The bill has passed, and the \$750,000 budget allocation has been reduced to \$250,000. The Committee decided to submit a letter of support to the Senate.*
- dd. HB884: State Conservation Land – Old Growth Forests – Protection – Status: Bill passed the House and it did not have a Senate cross file and the Committee decided to continue to monitor it.*

The Committee reviewed the upcoming bill hearings. Meeting ended at 2:43 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 28, 2022, 2pm-3pm, Zoom Teleconference